

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

Listing of the Claims:

D 1.(currently amended) A cord and louver assembly comprising:
a pair of ladder cords, including a first and a second ladder cord each ladder cord having a first and a second vertical cord portion each having a first and second end, said ladder cord including a plurality of spaced apart horizontal cord portions each having a first end connected to said first vertical cord portion and a second end connected to said second vertical cord portion, adjacent horizontal cord portions forming, with said first and second cord portion of each of said first and second ladder cords, a ladder opening;
a plurality of louvers, each louver within a ladder opening of each of said pair of ladder cords, each of said plurality of louvers having a first and a second elevation cord opening;
a base louver having a first and a second bore, each of said first and said second bores for accommodating an end plug;
a first end plug having an aperture, said first end plug for fitting within said first bore of said base louver;
a second end plug having an aperture, said [first] second end plug for fitting within said second bore of said base louver, said second ends of said first and second vertical cord portions of said first and second ladder cords secured by said base louver and said first and said second end plugs, said first ends of said first and said second ladder cords extending beyond a ladder opening occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver by a length

greater than required, when said ladder cords are in a fully extended position, for connection to a channel and component assembly of a horizontal blind set;

a first vertical elevation cord, having a first end and a second end, and extending through each said first elevation cord openings of said plurality of louvers, and said aperture of said first end plug and affixed adjacent said first end of said first vertical elevation cord to secure said first vertical elevation cord first end from pulling free of said first end plug, said second end of said first vertical elevation cord extending beyond a first ladder opening of said first ladder cord occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver by a length greater than required, when said ladder cords are in a fully extended position, for connection of said second end of said vertical elevation cord to a channel and component assembly of a horizontal blind set;

a second vertical elevation cord, having a first end and a second end, and extending through each said second elevation cord openings of said plurality of louvers, and said aperture of said second end plug and affixed adjacent said first end of said second vertical elevation cord to secure said second vertical elevation cord first end from pulling free of said second end plug, said second end of said second vertical elevation cord extending beyond a first ladder opening of said second ladder cord occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver by a length greater than required, when said ladder cords are in a fully extended position, for connection of said second end of said vertical elevation cord to a channel and component assembly of a horizontal blind set, said first and said second end plugs also for securing said first ends of said first and said second ladder cords.

2.(previously presented) The cord and louver assembly as recited

D₁
cont in claim 1 and wherein said first and said second vertical elevation cords are bundled together adjacent their respective first ends of their said first and second vertical cord portions to secure said cord and louver assembly as a unit.

3.(original) The cord and louver assembly as recited in claim 1 and wherein said ladder cords are bundled together adjacent their respective second ends to secure said cord and louver assembly as a unit.

4.(original) The cord and louver assembly as recited in claim 1 and further comprising a channel and component assembly to which said cord and louver assembly is attached to form a horizontal blind set.

5.(currently amended) A process of forming a horizontal blind set comprising the steps of:

in a cord and louver assembly having:

a pair of ladder cords, each ladder cord having a first and a second vertical cord portion each having a first and second end, said ladder cord including a plurality of spaced apart horizontal cord portions each having a first end connected to said first vertical cord portion and a second end connected to said second vertical cord portion, adjacent horizontal cord portions forming, with said first and second cord portion, a ladder opening;

a plurality of louvers, each louver within a ladder opening of each of said pair of ladder cords, each of said plurality of louvers having a first and a second elevation cord opening;

a base louver having a first and a second bore, each of said first

D1
cont
and said second bores for accommodating an end plug;

a first end plug having an aperture, said first end plug for fitting within said bore of said base louver;

a second end plug having an aperture, said [first] second end plug for fitting within said second bore of said base louver;[,] said second ends of said first and second vertical cord portions of said first and second ladder cords secured by said base louver and said first and said second end plugs, said first ends of said first and said second ladder cords extending beyond a ladder opening occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver by a length greater than required, when said ladder cords are in a fully extended position, for connection to a channel and component assembly of a horizontal blind set;

a first vertical elevation cord, having a first end and a second end, and extending through each said first elevation cord openings of said plurality of louvers, and said aperture of said first end plug and affixed adjacent said first end of said first vertical elevation cord to secure said first vertical elevation cord first end from pulling free of said first end plug, said second end of said first vertical elevation cord extending beyond a first ladder opening of said first ladder cord occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver by a length greater than required for connection of said second end of said vertical elevation cord to a channel and component assembly of a horizontal blind set;

a second vertical elevation cord, having a first end and a second end, and extending through each said second elevation cord openings of said plurality of louvers, and said aperture of said second end plug and affixed adjacent said first end of said second vertical elevation cord to secure said second vertical elevation cord first end from pulling free

D1
cont

of said second end plug, said second end of said second vertical elevation cord extending beyond a first ladder opening of said second ladder cord occupied by a louver farthest from said base louver by a length greater than required, when said ladder cords are in a fully extended position, for connection of said second end of said vertical elevation cord to a channel, when said ladder cords are in a fully extended position, and component assembly of a horizontal blind set,, said first and said second end plugs also for securing said first ends of said first and said second ladder cords;

extending said second ends of said first and said second vertical elevation cords through respective first and second small apertures in the base of a channel and component assembly for exiting said channel and component assembly at a location to enable users to pull said first and said second vertical elevation cords to raise and lower said base louver;

extending said second ends of said first and a second vertical cord portions of said a pair of ladder cords through respective openings in said channel and component assembly;

attaching said second ends of said first and a second vertical cord portions of said a pair of ladder cords each to a respective rotation member of said channel and component assembly, to form said horizontal blind set.

6.(original) The process of forming a horizontal blind set as recited in claim 5 and further comprising the step of at least one of removing and adding a louver to and from, respectively said opening of each of said pair of ladder cords, to thereby perform the action of at least one of adding to and subtracting from the number of said plurality louvers to provide a more custom height adjustment.

D. G. G.

7.(previously presented) The process of forming a horizontal blind set as recited in claim 5 and further comprising the step of unbundling said first and said second vertical elevation cords adjacent their respective second ends to disassemble said cord and louver assembly from its unitary status.

8.(previously presented) The process of forming a horizontal blind set as recited in claim 5 and further comprising the step of unbundling said ladder cords adjacent the respective second ends of their first and a second vertical cord portions to disassemble said cord and louver assembly from its unitary status.
